



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re CPA application of :

Name: **Russel M. Matney et al.** : **UT DETECTION AND SIZING**

Filed: **10/30/2001** : **METHOD FOR THIN WALL**

Serial No.: **10/015,982** : **TUBES**

Art Unit: **2856** : **(CASE OS 98-17)**

Examiner: **John E. Chapman Jr.** :

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and  
Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED  
JAN -9 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner:

The Office Action mailed 10/03/2003 in the above-identified case was a final office action and had a three month response due 01/03/2004 which was a Saturday and hence the following working day Monday 01/05/2004 is the end of the response period. This CPA application of the above identified case is dated 01/05/2004 and is being sent express mail to obtain this filing date for the CPA application within the normal response period for the said action. This preliminary amendment is filed with this CPA application and answers the Examiner's concerns and rejections in the parent application. Claims 1,3, 4

and 6-12 were in the parent application and claim 10 is cancelled herein so that claims 1,3,4, and 6-9 and 11-12 are in the case.

Please amend the present patent application as follows: